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Eric D. Babych

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANT: Cameron John KEPERT et al. )  
SERIAL NO: 10/520,249 ) Group Art Unit: 1796  
FILED: May 10, 2005 ) Examiner: John M. Cooney  
TITLE: ANOMALOUS EXPANSION MATERIALS

THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated June 2, 2008, having a shortened statutory period for reply set to expire on July 2, 2008.

**REMARKS**

In the Office Action, the Examiner made a restriction requirement, under 35 U.S.C. §121, between 2 groups of claims. Applicant provisionally elects species 1. As the Examiner indicates, Claims 1-8, 28-30, 35-36, 39 and 51-54 read on this species.

Furthermore, Applicant respectfully requests that Claims 9-27 and 39-50 be added to the group of claims elected. Claim 9 is not claiming a multi-atomic diatomic bridge. Rather, it is simply claiming that the component comprises two or more diatomic bridges. In other words, Claim 9 is a subset of the "one or more diatomic bridges" of Claim 1.

Claims 39 and 40 are claiming the material that is employed in the method of Claim 1 (i.e. the material that enables thermal expansion to be controlled). Claims 1, 9 and 40 are all inter-related as part of a single inventive concept.


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In light of the foregoing response, all the outstanding objections and rejections are considered overcome. Applicant respectfully submits that this application should now be in condition for allowance and respectfully requests favorable consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

June 27, 2008

Date



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